

Illinois' Memorial Stadium. The Bulldogs ended their season with a perfect record of 14–0.

Led by coaches Al Way and Greg Langley, members of the 2000 Harrisburg Bulldogs include Roth Clayton, Braden Jones, Joey Pilcher, Kyle Smithpeters, Walker Franks, Bob Dovell, Noah Stearns, Blake Emery, Brad Brachear, John Potts, Jeff McDonald, Mike Hancock, Nathan Potts, Cameron Chapman, Matt Oshel, A.J. Smith, Kyle Hicks, Jared Borders, Seth Hall, Tyler Rumsey, Justin Aud, Chris Stokich, Jacob Potter, Jacob Grubbs, Mark Hancock, Houston Ellis, Bard Karnes, Denver Milligan, Marques Scott, Kory Potts, Josh Goemaat, Patrick Beal, Travis Jerrels, Joe Speaks, Nick George, Alan Hurd, Jason Pigg, Justin Milligan, Daniel Henderson, Travis Boots, Travis Butler; cheerleaders, Casey Sowels, Jayna Beal, Sophia Hobson, Brooke Lane, Krystal Eudy, Liz Franks, Erin Brannock, Devin Kielhorn, Ashley Williams, and Brittany English.

The members of the Harrisburg Bulldogs should be proud of their achievement. I congratulate them and wish them good luck in future football seasons.

IN MEMORY OF JOHN R. STOKES,
HUMBOLDT COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 7, 2001

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I wish today to recognize Humboldt County attorney and World War II hero John Reynolds Stokes, who died Friday, January 5, 2001 in Arcata, California at the age of 83. His life was dedicated to the defense of democracy in war and in peace.

John Stokes grew up in Southern California and received his undergraduate education at Santa Barbara State College. In 1942 he was commissioned a Second Lieutenant in the Army Air Corps and was trained to fly the Martin B–26 Marauder. Stationed in England, he flew many missions over France. His 29th mission was the D-Day bombing of the Normandy Coast. After the liberation of Paris, Group Commander Stokes, based in France, made his last combat flight on March 13, 1945. He served with valor and distinction and was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross with ten Oak Leaf Clusters. Throughout his life, he stayed in touch with survivors of the 344th Bomb Group with whom he had shared the perils of war. He returned often to France to visit with French comrades.

John Stokes returned to California and entered Boalt Hall School of Law at the University of California at Berkeley. After graduation in 1948, he moved to Arcata, California with his wife Edith where he practiced law for more than fifty years. He served that community as City Attorney from 1950 to 1983. He was a member of the State Bar Board of Governors from 1979 to 1982 and was Chairman of the Committee of Bar Examiners from 1985 to 1986. Many young lawyers, new to the practice of law, were grateful for his guidance and counsel.

A life-long Democrat, he took particular pleasure in helping young people who sought careers in public service. Many successful

candidates valued his advice and support. He served as Chairman of the Humboldt County Democratic Central Committee for ten years.

Courageous in war, honorable and valiant in the pursuit of justice, John Stokes devoted his life to safeguarding the liberties we all enjoy as American citizens.

He has left a distinguished legacy to his five children, Katherine, John, Mary, Lucy and Emily, as well as his grandchildren, Sam, Catherine and Anna.

Mr. Speaker, it is appropriate at this time that we recognize John Reynolds Stokes for his unwavering commitment to the ideals and values that sustain our great country.

TRIBUTE TO MISS REBECCA PASSION, MISS RODEO USA OF ATHENS, ALABAMA

HON. ROBERT E. (BUD) CRAMER, JR.

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 7, 2001

Mr. CRAMER. Mr. Speaker, today I recognize the outstanding success of Rebecca Passion of Athens, Alabama. Crowned Miss Limestone Rodeo 2000, Miss Passion represented Limestone County at the IPRA National Finals in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma on January 15. Miss Passion was crowned Miss Rodeo USA on January 20. As her community gathers to honor her victory this Saturday at the Limestone County Sheriff's Rodeo Arena, I would like to join them in congratulating her.

Miss Passion's win is a testament to her talent, hard work and perseverance. The grueling competition included a test of riding skills, a public speaking portion and a lengthy interview. She excelled in all levels and surpassed the other competitors easily.

I know that Limestone County is very proud of their "hometown hero". They have supported her every step of the way. The Miss Rodeo USA crown is a crown that she shares with her community. Miss Passion is a wonderful role model and I know that she will use her time as Miss Rodeo USA to serve her community.

On behalf of the United States Congress, I congratulate Miss Passion and wish her a rewarding reign as Miss Rodeo USA. I wish her the best in all her future endeavors.

INTRODUCTION OF THE INDEPENDENT TELECOMMUNICATIONS CONSUMER ENHANCEMENT ACT OF 2001

HON. BARBARA CUBIN

OF WYOMING

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 7, 2001

Mrs. CUBIN. Mr. Speaker, today I have the pleasure of introducing the Independent Telecommunications Consumer Enhancement Act of 2001.

As many will recall, last year I introduced H.R. 3850, the Independent Telecommunications Consumer Enhancement Act of 2000, to lessen the burdens on small and mid-sized telephone companies and allow them to shift more of their resources to deploying advanced telecommunication services to consumers in all areas of the country.

Small and mid-size companies are truly that—while the more than 1,200 small and mid-size companies serve less than 10% of the nation's lines, they cover a much larger percentage of rural markets and are located in or near most major markets in the country.

Some of these telephone companies are mom and pop operations typically serving rural areas of the country where most other carriers fear to tread—in high cost places where it is less profitable than more populated areas.

In 1996 Congress passed historic legislation in the form of the Telecommunications Act. Section 706 of the Act sent a clear message to the American people and to the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) that the deployment of new telecommunications services in rural areas around the country must happen quickly and without delay.

Unfortunately the FCC has not made it any easier for small telephone companies to deploy advanced services in rural areas—in some cases they've actually made it more difficult. The reason is that the FCC more often than not uses a one size fits all model in regulating all Incumbent Local Exchange Carriers (ILECs). This type of model may be fine for the big companies that have the ability to hire legions of attorneys and staff to interpret and ensure compliance with the federal rules.

However, I for one would rather see the small and mid-size companies use their resources to deploy new services and make investment in their telecommunications infrastructure.

Two examples of these burdensome FCC requirements are CAM and ARMIS reports.

These reports, separately, cost about \$500,000 to compile and would equate to a small phone company installing a DSLAM or other facilities to provide high speed Internet access to customers in rural areas.

Just to give you an example of how burdensome these reports are, the Commission's instructions for filling them out are over 900 pages long. More often than not, the FCC does not refer to—and in some cases simply ignores—the data filed by mid-size companies.

Let me be very clear, however, that the bill does nothing to restrict the Commission's authority to request this or any other data at any time.

I want to be fair—the FCC should be commended for their efforts to bring some of these reporting requirements down to a reasonable level. In fact, during our hearing on this legislation, the FCC told the Telecommunications Subcommittee that it may be issuing a notice of proposed rule-making on the reporting requirements for 2 percent companies sometime this fall.

The problem, though, is that the agency's time frame on issuing these proposed rules has changed like the Wyoming winds. It's time those obligations are met and this legislation would solidify what the FCC has promised to do for a long time.

In addition, I want everyone to know that I have bent over backwards to accommodate many of the initial concerns that some members had with this legislation and have incorporated a majority of their helpful suggestions.

Some of the changes that were adopted during the Commerce Committee's consideration of the bill took into account several technical provisions that will continue to allow the FCC to do its job but in a way that still ensures that small and mid-size companies are treated differently.